

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7201

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, TW, JA, KS

SUBJECT: US-GROC DISCUSSIONS ON NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES

REF: STATE 226747

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL TO SEND SCIENTISTS FROM NORTHWEST FISHERIES CENTER TO TAIPEI TO MEET WITH ROC SCIENTISTS ON PROBLEMS OF NORTH PACIFIC RESOURCES. WE HAVE DISCUSSED PROPOSAL WITH VICE MINISTER YANG CHI-CH'UAN OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (MOEA). YANG ALSO WELCOMED THE SUGGESTION BUT HE NOTED THAT THERE MAY BE PROBLEM WITH PROPOSED DATES. HE SAID ATLANTIC TUNA CONSERVATION COMMISSION PROBABLY WILL CONVENE ITS NEXT CONFERENCE ON OR ABOUT NOVEMBER 12 AND ROC SCIENTISTS WHO COULD MOST USEFULLY DISCUSS PROBLEMS WITH U.S. COUNTERPARTS MAY BE ATTENDING THAT CONFERENCE. HE THEREFORE THOUGHT CONSIDERATION MIGHT HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO HOLDING THE TAKS AT SOME OTHER MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME. YANG PROMISED TO GIVE THE EMBASSY A MORE DEFINITE RESPONSE AFTER HE HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH OTHER INTERESTED GROC AGENCIES.

2. WE ALS CONVEYED TO VICE MINISTER YANG THE SUBSTANCE OF PARAS 3 - 8 OF REFTTEL. YANG THOUGHT U.S. AND GROC UNDERSTANDINGS WERE NOT ACTUALLY FAR APART ALTHOUGH HE REMAINS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOMEWHAT CONCERNED ABOUT VAGUENESS OF TERMS "OFF THE COAST

OF U.S." AND "AREAS OF CONCENTRATION." HE EXPRESSED DESIRE TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE FURTHER. IN MEANTIME, HOWEVER, HE STATED THAT GROC WILL TAKE FOLLOWING MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO FISHING OPERATIONS BY ROC VESSELS IN NORTH PACIFIC:

(A) ROC VESSELS WISHING TO FISH IN NORTH PACIFIC MUST APPLY FOR GROC APPROVAL AT LEAST ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE.

(B) ROC VESSELS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO USE DRIFT GILL NETS (WHICH YANG CALLED "UNITS") FOR SALMON.

(C) ROC TRAWLERS WILL CONTINUE TO BE AUTHORIZED TO TRAWL IN NORTH PACIFIC BUT THEY WILL BE INSTRUCTED NOT TO FISH HALIBUT OR CRABS AND TO RETURN TO THE SEA ANY INCIDENTAL CATCHES OF THESE SPECIES.

(D) ROC VESSELS WILL BE ORDERED TO RESPECT CONSERVATION MEASURES ESTABLISHED BY USG IN BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

(E) GROC FISHING LAW WILL BE INVOKED AGAINST ROC VESSELS WHICH DO NOT OBSERVE FOREGOING REQUIREMENTS.
UNGER

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